

Message Text

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 01 PHNOM 16459 120744Z

11

ACTION EA-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 IO-10 ISO-00 SS-15 NSC-05 CIAE-00

DODE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 PA-02 RSC-01 USIA-15 PRS-01

SP-02 SAM-01 /082 W

----- 036019

R 120545Z DEC 74

FM AMEMBASSY PHNOM PENH

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8581

INFO AMEMBASSY BINGKOK

AMEMBASSY CANBERRA

AMEMBASSY JAKARTA

AMEMBASSY KUALA LUMPUR

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY MANILA

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY SAIGON

AMEMBASSY SINGAPORE

AMEMBASSY TOKYO

AMEMBASSY VIENTIANE

AMEMBASSY WELLINGTON

USLO PEKING

AMCONSUL HONG KONG

US MISSION USUN NEW YTRK 1287

CINCPAC HONOLULU HI

UNCLAS PHNOM PENH 16459

CINCPAC FOR POLAD

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR CB

SUBJ: EDITORIAL IN BANGKOK'S "THE NATION" ON A KHMER SOLUTION

1. THE BANGKOK ENGLISH-LANGUAGE DAILY "THE NATION" RAN THE FOLLOWING EDITORIAL ON DECEMBER 12, UNDER THE HEADING "KHMER FOLLOW-UP MUST BE THROUGH NORTH VIETNAM" WHICH MAY BE OF INTEREST TO ADDRESSEES.

UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 02 PHNOM 16459 120744Z

2. BEGIN QUOTE.

AMBASSADOR ANAND PANYARACHUN, OUR MAN IN WASHINGTON
END IN THE UNITED NATIONS, PLAYED A KEY LOBBYING ROLE
WHEN THE CONSIDERATION OF SEATING PRINCE NORODOM
SIHANOUK'S GOVERNMENT-IN-EXILE IN THE UN INSTEAD OF THE
PHNOM PENH GOVERNMENT WAS DEBATED. ALTHOUGH THE US
THREW ITS FULL WEIGHT BEHIND THE LON NOL GOVERNMENT,
WASHINGTON PREFERRED TO LEAVE IT TO THE SOUTHEAST ASIAN
COUNTRIES TO WORK OUT THE SOLUTION.

WHEN THE PRESENT GOVERNMENT IN CAMBODIA MANAGED
TO RETAIN ITS SEAT IN THE UN BY TWO VOTES, IT SHOULD
NOT BE CONSIDERED A VICTORY BUT MORE AS A RELIEF SINCE
THE RESOLUTION SAYS THAT UN SECRETARY GENERAL KURT
WALDHEIM AND ALL OTHER COUNTRIES CONCERNED SHOULD

EXERCISE THEIR GOOD OFFICES TO BRING THE WARRING PARTIES
TO THE CONFERENCE TABLE AND FIND A POLITICAL SOLUTION.

NO ONE IS MORE CONCERNED ABOUT THE WAR IN CAMBODIA
THAN THE ASEAN MEMBERS AND MR. ANAND HITS IT ON THE HEAD
WHEN HE SAYS THAT ASEAN SHOULD TAKE IT UPON ITSELF TO
URGE NORTH VIETNAM AND SIHANOUK TO ACCEPT THE OFFER
WHICH PRESIDENT LON NOL OF CAMBODIA HAS MADE FOUR TIMES--
INVITATION TO TALKS ANYWHERE WITHOUT ANY PRE-CONDITIONS.
AND SIHANOUK HAS TURNED IT DOWN FOUR TIMES.

ASEAN IS IN A PRIVILEGED POSITION BECAUSE ONE OF
ITS MEMBERS, INDONESIA, HAS TIES WITH HANOI AND IT IS
ALSO A MEMBER OF THE INTERNATIONAL COMMISSION FOR CONTROL
AND SUPERVISION OF THE VIETNAM CEASEFIRE. THAILAND,
AS A NEIGHBOUR AND A FRIEND OF THE PHNOM PENH GOVERN-
MENT, COULD OF COURSE INFLUENCE IT BUT THERE IS NOT MUCH
MORE THAT LON NOL CAN OFFER THAN WHAT HE HAS ALREADY DONE.

MR. ANAND ARGUES THAT SINCE ASEAN HAS BEEN HEAVILY
INVOLVED IN THE CAMBODIAN QUESTION IN THE UN, IT IS ONLY
LOGICAL THAT THE FIVE NATIONS SHOULD FOLLOW UP THE
MATTER. IN SUCH MATTERS TIME RUNS OUT VERY FAST AND
UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 03 PHNOM 16459 120744Z

ONE YEAR IS NOT A LONG TIME. THE FIVE NATIONS SHOULD
MEET AT A HIGH LEVEL WITH THE SOLE PURPOSE OF FINDING
A SOLUTION TO THE PRESENT STALEMATE CAUSED BY THE PER-
SISTENT REFUSAL OF SIHANOUK TO NEGOTIATE.

NEITHER THE PATHET LAO NOR THE VIET CONG
SHOWED RECALCITRANCE TO NEGOTIATE AND THOUGH THE
NEGOTIATIONS WERE TOUGH AND PROTRACTED, THE WARRING

PARTIES DID REACH AN AGREEMENT. THERE IS STILL FIGHTING
TDWOING ON IN VIETNAM AND IT MAY TAKE YEARS BEFORE ALL
THE GUNS ARE SILENT. BUT IN LAOS, THE TERMS OF THE
AGREEMENT HAVE BEEN KEPT AND BOTH SIDE HAVESHOWN
THEIR DESIRE TO WORK FOR THE GOOD OF THE COUNTRY.

SIHA OUK'S CONTRARINESS NOT ONLY MAKES HIM A
PRIMA DONNA--WHICH EVERYONE KNOWS HE IS--BUT ALSO
QUESTIONS HIS REAL EFFECTIVENESS AS THE LEADER OF THE
INSUCGPAGH OPVYADUDWN CAMBODIABM THE KHMER ROUGE DO
NOT HAVE SUCH SHORT MEMORIES AS TO FORGET THAT BEFORE
1969 WHEN HE WAS OUSTED, HE WAS THEIR ARCH-SUPPRESSOR.

DESPITE SIHANOUK'S CLAIMS, NOBODY BELIEVES HE HAS
SET FOOT ON CAMBODIAN SOIL SINCE HE WAS OUSTER. HIS

DEPUTY KHIEU SAMPAN SPENDS MOST OF HIS TIME IN THE
OCCUPIED LANDS OF CAMBODIA AND MANY BELIEVE THAT HE IS
THE ACTUAL LEADER OF THE INSURGENCY MOVEME T WITH
SIHANOUK AS THE TITULAR HEAD SINCE HE IS INTERNATIONALLY
WELL KNOWN AND HIS NAME MIGHT BE USEFUL TO SECURE A UN SEAT.

APART FROM KHIEU SAMPAN THERE ARE SEVERAL OTHER
LEADERS OF KHMER ROUGE WORKING IN CAMBODIA AND LEADING
THE KHMER ROUGE BUT THEY ARE NOT INTERNATIONALLY KNOWN.
THESE ARE THE PEOPLE AT THE DECISION-MAKING LEVEL ON
THE COMMUNIST SIDE.

OBTAINING, THEY CANNOT BE GOT AT AND SO THE ASEAN
MEMBERS, IF THEY HAVE TO FOLLOW-UP THEIR EFFORTS IN
THE UN, WILL HAVE TO FALL BACK ON HANOI. NORTH VIETNAM
HAS AGREED TO A COALITION GOVERNMENT IN LAOS AND THERE
IS NO REASON WHY SHE SHOULD NOT DO SO IN CAMBODIA.
UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 04 PHNOM 16459 120744Z

PERHAPS THE BIGGEST OBSTACLE TO NEGOTIATIONS IS
SIHANOUK HIMSELF BECAUSE HE BELIEVES THAT ONCE THE WAR
IS OVER HE MAY NO MORE BE THE HEAD OF GOVERNMENT EITHER
IN PHNOM PENH OR IN HIS PEKING-BASED GOVERNMENT-IN-EXILE.
END QUOTE.
DEAN

UNCLASSIFIED

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: PRESS COMMENTS, PEACE PLANS, NEGOTIATIONS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 12 DEC 1974
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: n/a
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01 JAN 1960
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1974PHNOM16459
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D740360-0912
From: PHNOM PENH
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1974/newtext/t19741240/aaaabhyo.tel
Line Count: 161
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION EA
Original Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: n/a
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: MorefiRH
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 30 SEP 2002
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <30 SEP 2002 by ReddocGW>; APPROVED <29 JAN 2003 by MorefiRH>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: EDITORIAL IN BANGKOK'S "THE NATION" ON A KHMER SOLUTION
TAGS: PFOR, CB
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005